

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Regarding the Amendments

By amendment herein, Claims 31 and 32, drawn to a polyester polyepoxide, are now canceled. Claims 29, 30, 37, 38, 43 and 44 remain pending in the application. No fee should be required for the aforementioned amendment; but if Applicants' assessment is incorrect, the Examiner is authorized to charge Debit Account 04-1512 the required fee.

B. Regarding the Rejection of Claims 31 and 32

Claims 31 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by CN 1052893 for teaching a polyester polyepoxide of the instant application. Claims 31 and 32 have been canceled in view of the cited reference; therefore, the rejection should be rendered moot.

C. Concerning the Previous Cancellation of Claims 7-9, 11-28, 33-36, 39-42, and 45-51

The Office Action dated June 4, 2008, states that "Applicant's arguments, see pages 6-7 filed 18 March 2008, with respect to Claims 7-9, 11-28, 33-36, 39-42, and 45-51, have been considered and are persuasive." We wish to clarify our position to this point. The Office Action dated January 9, 2008 was a Final Rejection in which Claims 7-9, 11-28, 33-36, 39-42, and 45-51 were finally rejected, whereas Claims 29-30, 31-32, 37-38, and 43-44 were deemed to be allowable. In accordance with long-standing accepted practice in responding to a Final Rejection, the Applicants, in their reply of 18 March 2008, canceled the finally-rejected subject matter without argument or comment and maintained in the application only the claims that were deemed to have allowable subject matter (Claims 29-30, 31-32, 37-38, and 43-44). The undersigned filed the reply as a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) rather than a direct reply to the Final Rejection, because the inventors had given material information concerning allowable Claims 31 and 32 to the undersigned, which the undersigned was required, in accordance with duty of disclosure and in view of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to submit to the Patent Office in an RCE. Applicants are considering filing a continuation application drawn to Claims 7-9, 11-

28, 33-36, 39-42, and 45-51, which would afford Applicants a chance to amend the claims, if desired, and to set forth arguments that address the various issues raised in the Final Rejection of these claims.

D. Conclusions

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of Claims 29-30, 37-38, and 43-44. In view of the amendment made hereinabove, Applicants believe that the application stands in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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